

WELCOME TO

Herb Traub's Award-Winning

Pirates' House

RESTAURANT * LOUNGE * GIFT SHOP
MUSEUM

Savannah's Most Intriguing Landmark
IN HISTORIC TRUSTEES' GARDEN



"What Foods These Morsels Be"

20 EAST BROAD STREET

A BLOCK FROM THE RIVER

● VISITORS WELCOME . . . ANYTIME ! ●

Telephone 233-5757

SAVANNAH'S famous Pirates' House is located on one of the most historical spots in Georgia for it is here that Trustees' Garden, the first public agricultural experimental garden in America, was located.

When General James Edward Oglethorpe and his little band of colonists arrived from England in 1733, they came ashore in the vicinity of the present City Hall on Bull and Bay streets, approximately seven blocks due west of The Pirates' House, and there pitched their tents to found the city of Savannah. Within one month, Oglethorpe established this large experimental garden on what was then the outskirts of Savannah and named it in honor of the men in his native England who were the Trustees of the infant state of Georgia.

The garden was modeled very closely after the Chelsea Botanical Garden in London, a diagram of which can be seen hanging in our Jolly Roger Room. Consisting of ten acres, it was bounded on the north by the Savannah River, on the south by what is now Broughton Street, on the west by what is now East Broad Street and on the East by old Fort Wayne. Botanists were sent from England to the four corners of the world to procure plants for the new project and soon vine cuttings, fruit trees, flax, hemp, spices, cotton, indigo, olives and medicinal herbs were all taking root on the banks of the Savannah River. The greatest hopes, however, were centered in the wine industry and in the mulberry trees which are essential to the culture of silk; but both of these crops failed due to the unsuitable soil and weather conditions. From this garden, however, were distributed the peach trees which have since given Georgia and South Carolina a major commercial crop and also the upland cotton which later comprised the greater part of the world's cotton commerce.

The small building adjoining the Pirates' House was erected in 1734 and is said to be the oldest house in the state of Georgia. This building originally housed the gardener of Trustees' Garden; his office and tool room were in the front section; his stable occupied the back room and a hayloft was upstairs. The bricks used in the construction of this old "Herb House," as it is called even today were manufactured only a short block away under the bluff by the Savannah River where brick-making was begun by the colonists as early as 1733.

Around 1753, when Georgia had become firmly established and the need for the experimental garden no longer existed, the site was developed as a residential section; and since Savannah had become a thriving seaport town, one of the first buildings constructed on the former garden site was naturally an inn for visiting seamen. Situated a scant block from the Savannah River, the inn became a rendezvous of bloodthirsty pirates and

sailors from the Seven Seas. Here seamen drank their fiery grog and discoursed, sailor fashion, on their adventures from Singapore to Shanghai and from San Francisco to Port Said. This very same building has recently been converted into one of America's most unique restaurants, The Pirates' House, and even though every modern restaurant



facility has been installed (including complete Air Conditioning and Music by Muzak), the atmosphere of those exciting days of "Wooden ships and iron men" has been carefully preserved throughout.

In the chamber known as The Captain's Room with its hand hewn ceiling beams joined with wooden pegs, negotiations were made by short-handed ship's masters to shanghai unwary seamen to complete their crews. Stories still persist of a tunnel, extending from the old Rum Cellar beneath The Captain's Room to the river, through which these men were carried, drugged and unconscious to ships waiting in the harbor. Indeed, many a sailor drinking in carefree abandon at The Pirates' House awoke to find himself at sea on a strange ship bound for a port half a world away. A Savannah policeman, so legend has it, stopped by The Pirates' House for a friendly drink and awoke on a four-mastered schooner sailing to China from where it took him two years to make his way back to Savannah!

Hanging on the walls in The Captain's Room and the Treasure Room are frames containing pages from an early, very rare edition of the book "Treasure Island." Savannah is mentioned numerous times in this classic by Robert Louis Stevenson; in fact some of the action is supposed to have taken place in The Pirates' House! 'Tis said that old Cap'n Flint, who originally buried the fabulous treasure on Treasure Island, died here in an upstairs room. In the story, his faithful first mate, Billy Bones, was at his side when he breathed his last muttering, "Darby, bring aft the rum!" Even

now many swear that the ghost of Cap'n Flint still haunts the Pirates' House area on moonless nights.

The validity of The Pirates' House has been recognized by the American Museum Society which lists this historic tavern as an authentic house museum. The property was acquired by the Savannah Gas Company in 1948 and the building soon fell under the magic wand of Mrs. Hansell Hillyer wife of the president of the company, who with great imagination, perseverance and skill transformed the fascinating old museum into its present use as a restaurant. Today it is a mecca for Savannahians and tourists alike who come to enjoy its many delicious Southern specialties served in the original romantic setting of yesteryear.

While you're here we invite and URGE you to browse through all of our 17 interesting dining rooms:

- The Jolly Roger Room
- The Captain's Room
- The Pirates' Den
- The Treasure Room
- The Buccaneer Room
- The Pirates' Cove
- The Anchorage
- The V I. P. Room (Very Important Pirates!)
- The Black Hole
- The Herb House, 1 & 2
- The Garden Room
- The Hall of Fame
- The Hideaways, 1 & 2
- The Pirates' Alley
- The Tavern Room

In addition . . . be sure to discover the picturesque little outdoor patio that harbors a huge ancient anchor and our Wishing Well with its century-old cypress bucket . . . the unique curved stone stairway leading down into the original Rum Cellar with old Jolly George sprawled at the bottom with a dagger in his back . . . the recently uncovered underground chamber in the Buccaneer Room . . . the outstanding display of paintings almost everywhere, exhibited by Savannah's leading artists . . . and last but not least, our fascinating Gift Shop where you will find the widest selection of unusual Gifts, Gadgets, Goodies and Souvenirs in Savannah!

Have a wonderful time . . . and Happy Hunting!

Your Host,

Herb Traub

And Now . . .

A Few Vital Statistics About
The
Pirates' House

That We Hope Will Be Of Interest and
Will Prove Helpful:

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**OUR RESTAURANT IS RECOMMENDED BY**

AAA • Gourmet • McCall's  
Holiday • Better Homes & Gardens  
Mobil Travel Guide  
American Travel Association  
and  
The Canadian Automobile Association

**REDBOOK SAYS:**

"One of the 34 Best Restaurants in the U.S.A."

**WE HAVE ALSO BEEN CITED IN**  
Life, Ford Times, Playboy, Pontiac Safari, U. S. Lady  
and many newspapers throughout the country!

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YOU'LL FIND US OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

From 11:30 A.M. 'til 9:45 P.M.

Saturdays, 10:45 P.M.

And in addition to complete menu service at all
times we offer a daily Luncheon Buffet in the
Buccaneer Room from 11:30 to 2:30

PLUS

Three Great Week-end Buffets
in the beautiful Garden Room featuring

"FORTY FEET OF FABULOUS FOOD!"

Every Saturday Night - 6 to 9:30

Sunday - 11:30 A.M. to 2:30 & Sunday Night -
5:00 to 8:30

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For Meetings, Parties, Banquets, Teas  
Receptions & Sales Promotions  
our facilities are unexcelled!

(17 rooms are available - seating from 6 to 266 people)

Telephone 233-5757 (Area Code 912)

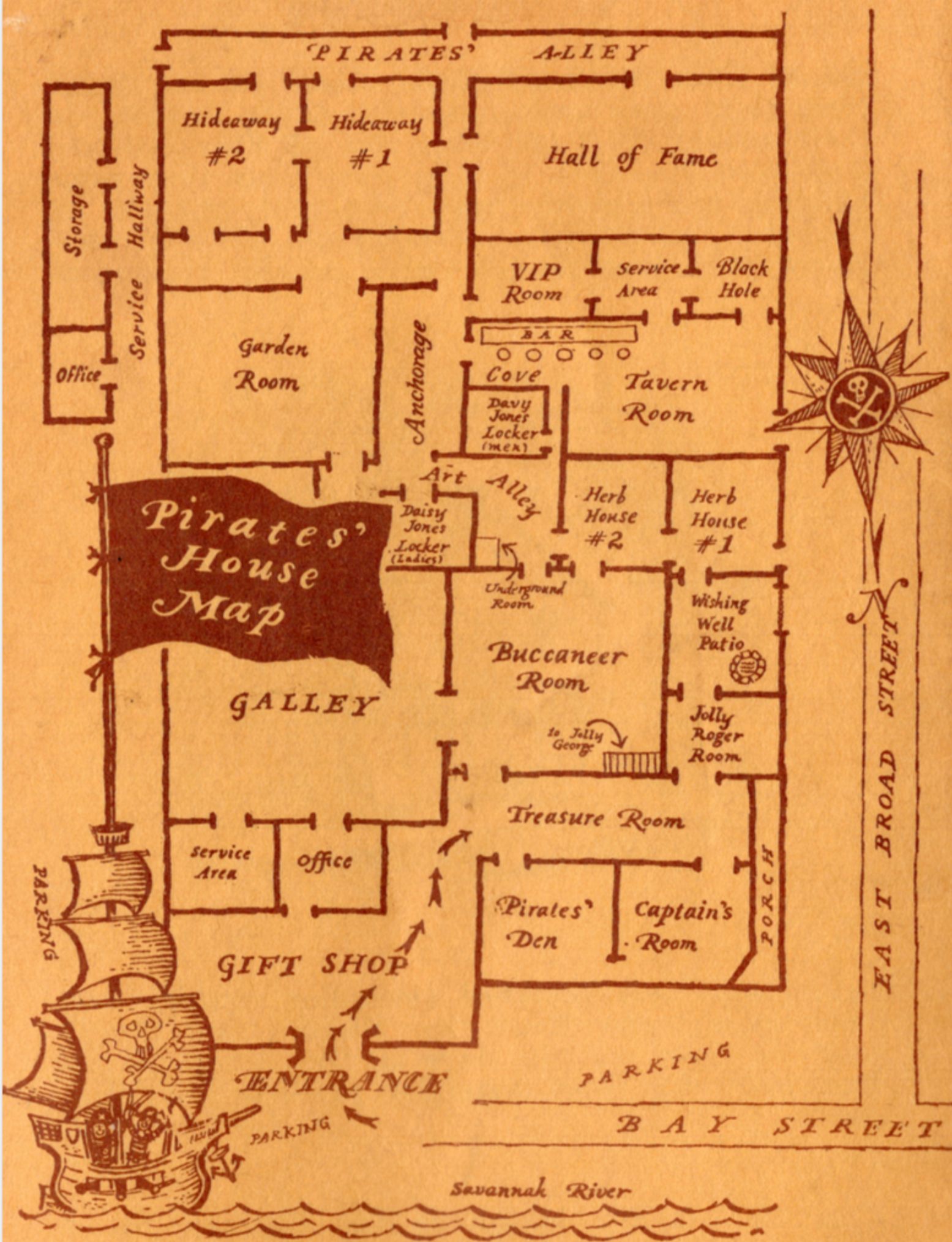
• Open Every Day in the Year except Christmas •



*We LOVE Children!*







*The Pirates' House*  
 20 EAST BROAD STREET  
 SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401

PLACE  
 STAMP  
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